P18448.A03



Group Art Unit: 2739

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Haifeng BI et al.

Appl. No. :

09/534,308

Filed

March 23, 2000

For

FAULT TOLERANT ATM-BASED DISTRIBUTED VIRTUAL

TANDEM SWITCHING SYSTEM AND METHOD

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, 1.97-1.98, applicants call the International Preliminary Examination Report, mailed on July 26, 2000, in counterpart International Application No. PCT/US99/06555 to the Examiner's attention.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the International Preliminary Examination Report, a copy of which is enclosed. It is noted that the reference discussed in the International Preliminary Examination Report is already of record in the present case. Consequently, the reference is not being cited again, nor is a copy enclosed.

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The undersigned hereby certifies that the International Preliminary Examination Report referenced in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. Because the International application in which the International Preliminary Examination Report was filed in designated foreign countries, it is believed to be a counterpart foreign—application for purposes of this certification.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

Haifeng BI et al.

Bruce H. Bernstein Reg. No. 29,027

October 26, 2000 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1941 Roland Clarke Place Reston, VA 20191 (703) 716-1191